

House Resolution No. 314

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State high school athletic programs that truly embody the highest standards of sportsmanship, teamwork, training, and perseverance throughout the competitive season; and

Whereas, West Plains High School sponsors a cross country program whose teams have won twenty-three State Titles and forty-nine State Trophies since Hall of Fame coach Joe Bill Dixon started the running program thirty years ago; and

Whereas, during the past six years, West Plains High School girls cross country teams have won five State Championships, and during the entire history of the program, twelve boys teams and eleven girls teams have reached the top spot in state competition; and

Whereas, under the guidance of coach Joe Bill Dixon, the West Plains High School girls cross country Zizzers again captured First Place in Missouri State High School Activities Association sanctioned competition by earning a score of 74 in the Class 3 state event on November 3, 2007; and

Whereas, in his thirtieth year as a coach, Joe Bill Dixon led his first boys team to Eighth in State in 1978 before taking First in State in 1979; took the inaugural girls team to First in State in 1985; enjoyed watching the 2004 girls team take the first-ever perfect score in the state of Missouri; garnered forty-nine Top Four finishes; and produced eleven Individual Champions and five Footlocker All-Americans; and

Whereas, Joe Bill Dixon was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in 2001:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments of the thirty-year-old West Plains High School cross country program and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt congratulations upon earning the Class 3 State Championship trophy in 2007; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to coach Joe Bill Dixon of West Plains High School.

Offered by _____
Representative Ward Franz
District No. 151

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 314, adopted January 30, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker